

Co-operatives Victoria

Minute of Board Meeting held 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 Midday, 10 December 2012, Melbourne Urban
Camp Co-operative, Brens Drive, Parkville

Present: Tony O'Shea (Chairman), Bill Bodman, George Leyland-Greaves, David Dinning, Shirley
Faram and David Griffiths (Secretary)

Apology: Linda Seaborn

1. Appointment of Chairperson

Tony was asked whether he would be prepared to return as Chairman for the coming 12 months, and he indicated that, as his workload at the Avoca Co-op was now lighter than previously, due to the appointment of a new Secretary, he would accept re-appointment if that was the Board's wish.

That Tony O'Shea be appointed Chairman.

CARRIED

2. Casual Vacancy

That George Leyland-Greaves be appointed to fill a casual vacancy until the AGM. CARRIED

3. Vale Niel Black

Directors paid tribute to Niel Black and agreed that the AGM should discuss Niel's contribution to co-operation and co-operatives.

4. Minute of previous meeting

That the minute of the previous meeting of 11 September 2012 be approved as a true and accurate record. CARRIED

5. National Peak Body

There was discussion on the Social Business Council being promoted by Social Business Australia and it was noted that no specific detailed proposal had been developed but that at the National Co-operative Conference on the 25 October 2012 Mr. Greg Wall had said that a proposal document would be available and circulated in March 2013.

Concern was expressed about the possible nature of the proposal when there was a prior need for a national co-operative peak. There was agreement, however, that Co-operatives Victoria would write to Mr. Greg Wall confirming our willingness to consider any proposal and the need for the proposal to be released in March 2013 as promised.

ACTION: Chairman and Secretary

David Griffiths reported that his discussions with the CFNSW Chairman Tony Rogic at the National Co-operative Conference had confirmed Mr. Rogic's commitment to the development of an effective and efficient peak body for co-operatives.

That we should move as soon as possible for the establishment of a national co-operative peak body for co-operatives which has widespread support of large and small co-operatives. CARRIED.

ACTION: Chairman and Secretary

6. Department of Primary Industry and Co-op Start Up Manual.

It was noted that development of the project was being delayed because the First Edition of the Co-op Start-Up Manual had not been released by the Mid North Coast RDA.

The Secretary reported that two end of month reports had been submitted to DPI as required. He also reported that eight videos on Co-operation in Practice had been completed and another seven had been filmed on Co-operatives National Law. He said that an invoice of \$3000 for SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd was now to be paid as a contribution towards the cost of the Co-operation in Practice films.

It was also noted that the \$1000 payment made to Graeme Charles for rewriting the Co-op Start Up Manual could be costed against the DPI grant.

ACTION: David Griffiths

7. Co-operative Education

The Secretary reported on his discussions with Ramsay Margolis and Chris Cooper about the Co-operative College and the LEADing Board program and distributed the comments of Trent Bartlett, a CBH director, about both programs.

It was noted that the Secretary would review the LEADing Board program

ACTION: Secretary

8. Workshop – Cooperatives National Law

It was noted that the workshop on 19 November 2012 had been a success and the Secretary provided copies of Jenni Mattila's presentation.

9. National Co-operative Conference

The report from the Secretary was noted.

10. Financial Report

The Treasurer tabled the financial reports:

Profit/Loss 1 July 2011 – 9 December 2012

Balance Sheet 9 December 2012

That the financial reports be accepted. CARRIED

The Secretary to distribute DPI funding details to the Chairman and Treasurer.

ACTION: Secretary

That David Dinning and George Leyland-Greaves prepare a submission for the next board meeting on appropriate annual subscription rate for financial institutions. CARRIED

ACTION: David Dinning and George Leyland-Greaves

11. Membership

That Organic Dairy Farmers of Australia be admitted as a member and Francis Killackey accepted as delegate. CARRIED

That the resignation of bankmecu be accepted. CARRIED

Next meeting:

10: 00 a.m. 20 February 2013
SouthEast Housing Co-operative Ltd
Plaza Business Centre, The Hub, Level 3
26 – 36 McCrae St, Dandenong VIC 3175